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they each lived ; also a copy of, or abstract from, his will. The snuff box I have is dated 1716, so he must have died after that year. While our family have always considered the miniature on the lid a portrait of Sarah Fielding Davis, I suspect it is in reality a portrait of her mother, Edward Fielding's wife.

It will be seen that Edward Fielding, who came to Virginia to live, was a nephew of the great Bristol merchant, and son of Ambrose Fielding, who was a justice of the peace for Northumberland in 1670, so that he, Ambrose, must have come to Virginia soon after his brother Richard's death, in 1666. Edward F., of Bristol, was probably the elder of the four brothers—Edward, Richard, Ambrose and Dr. Robert—which may partly account for his greater wealth through the old laws of entail.

According to our family chronicles, &c., the Davis family were yeomen farmers of Gloucestershire, England, and there may have been an acquaintance between the families before John Davis and Sarah Fielding were married in Northumberland county, Virginia.

(TO BE CONTINUED)

THE BROOKE FAMILY OF VIRGINIA.

By PROF. ST. GEORGE TUCKER BROOKE, Morgantown, W. Va.

(CONTINUED)

Major Brooke was made brevet lieutenant-colonel of the 4th Infantry "for gallant conduct in the defence of Fort Erie" 15th August, 1814, and brevet colonel for "distinguished and meritorious conduct in the sortie from Fort Erie" 17th September, 1814. See Appendix "List of Officers of the U. S. Army on whom Brevets were Conferred by the President for 'Gallant Actions or Meritorious Conduct' during the War with Great Britain. Compilation of Army Registers from 1815 to 1837." Full colonel 5th Infantry 15th July, 1831. He was made brigadier-general, brevet, 17th September, 1824. Was in command of Cantonment Brooke for a number of years. In 1834 was in command at Fort Howard, Green Bay, Wisconsin (then Northwest Territory); at New Orleans in the Mexican War; and died at San Antonio, Texas, where a monument was raised over him by the soldiers of his command. (Data not accessible for his promotion to major-general, but that was his rank at his death.) His wife was Lucy Thomas, of Duxbury, Mass., and he was the son of Richard Brooke, of Mantapike, and of his wife, Maria Mercer. It may be added that "Fort Brooke," at Tampa, Florida, was named in honor of General George Mercer Brooke. Fort "Frank Brooke," in Taylor county, Florida, was named in honor of Lieutenant Francis John Brooke, graduate of West Point, and killed in the battle of Lake Okeechobee (Seminole Indian war), Christmas day, 1837, Colonel Zachary Taylor commanding. He was the son of John Taliaferro

Brooke and of his wife, Ann Mercer Selden, and was brother of Samuel Selden Brooke, of "Millvale," Stafford county (whose wife was Angelina Edrington, and was also brother of the late Henry Lawrence Brooke, of Richmond, Va. (whose wife was Virginia, daughter of Judge Henry St. George Tucker).

John Mercer Brooke, son of General George Mercer Brooke, Professor of Physics and Astronomy, Virginia Military Institute since 1866; was made Emeritus professor in July, 1899; born at Tampa, Florida, December 18, 1826; son of Major-General George Mercer Brooke, U. S. A., and Lucy Thomas Brooke, of Duxbury, Mass.; was educated at Milner Hall, the Preparatory School of Kenyon College, Ohio, and at Burlington, New Jersey; entered the U. S. Navy as midshipman, March 3, 1841; graduated at Naval Academy in 1847 with the first class graduated at Annapolis; on duty at the Naval Observatory, Washington, 1851-'53; while there invented the Deep Sea Sounding Apparatus; was in the North Pacific Surveying and Exploring Expedition in the sloop of war *Vincennes*, under Commodore John Rogers, having charge of the Astronomical Department; commanded the *Fenimore Cooper* in the survey of route between San Francisco, Sandwich Islands, Japan and China; resigned from U. S. Navy on the secession of Virginia in April, 1861; entered Confederate service; was made Chief of Bureau of Ordnance and Hydrography under Secretary Stephen Mallory; invented the Brooke gun; discovered the utility of the auspace in cannon; designed plans for iron clad vessel with submerged ends, this plan being used in the reconstruction of the *Merrimac*; drew up directions for the cruise of the *Shenandoah* for destruction of the whaling fleet; received, 1867, from King William of Prussia (Emperor William I) the gold medal of Science awarded by the Academy of Sciences, Berlin; contributor on ordnance, gunnery and naval affairs to *The United Service*; *The U. S. Nautical Magazine*, etc., etc., July, 1879-'80, a profound discussion of the bursting of the one hundred ton gun on the British ship *Thunderer*; was called to Washington to give expert testimony in the case of *Dahlgren* vs. *U. S.* About the time of the laying of the Atlantic cable wrote articles in the *National Intelligencer* and New York *Herald*, saying what the mistakes were that led to the parting of the cable and what should be done to avoid a repetition of the accident. In the *Nautical Magazine and Naval Journal*, June, 1857, published a valuable article on "The Ocean Telegraph" (bound number, p. 205). An interesting comment on the same will be found in the same volume, p. 464. In *McClure*, for Christmas, 1900, see an article called "The Bottom of the Sea," by Ray Stannard Baker. In the accompanying chart the *Brooke Deep* is noted. This was sounded in 1858 from the *Fenimore Cooper*, and was three thousand four hundred fathoms deep, and is remarkable as having been the first of these exceptionally deep soundings. Belknap refers to it in his article in *The United Service*,

July, 1879, "Something About Deep Sea Soundings." This sounding was made in the North Pacific, some three hundred and thirty miles east of the northern point of Luzon.*

WILL OF LAWRENCE TALIAFERRO,† FATHER OF MRS. SARAH
(TALIAFERRO) BROOKE.

In the name of God Amen. I Lawrence Taliaferro of the County of Essex being in perfect sence and [word illegible] do make and ordain this my last will and Testament hereby revocking all wills and Testaments by me heretofore made.

Imprimis, I bequeath my sowl and my body and [word illegible].

2nd I give my daughter Sarah Taliaferro‡ Two Hundred pounds Ster. money of England and one negro girl named Hannah which I order to be paid her at the day of Marriage or when She is eighteen years of age to her and her heirs forever.

3rd I give to my daughter Elizabeth Taliaferro two hundred pounds Ster. money of England and one negro girl named Daphne to be paid her on the day of her marriage or when she is eighteen years of age to her and her heirs forever.

4th I give to my daughter Mary Taliaferro two hundred pounds Ster. money of England and one negro girl named Phillis to be paid her on the day of marriage or when she is eighteen years of age to her and her heirs forever.

5th I give to my daughter Alice Taliaferro§ Two hundred pounds Ster. money of England and one negro girl named Sue to be paid her on the day of marriage or when she is eighteen years of age to her and her heirs forever.

My will is that if either or any of my affore said daughters die before they are married or arrive to the age of Eighteen Years that their Estate to be equally divided between the Surviving sisters.

6th. I give to my son John¶ Three hundred & fifty acres of Land being the Back part of Seven hundred acres at Massaponax which I bought of William Smith. I also give my son John Three hundred and

*Colonel John Mercer Brooke married, first, Elizabeth Garnett, daughter of Colonel William Garnett, and granddaughter of Richard Brooke of Mantapike, and sister of General Richard Brooke Garnett, killed at Gettysburg. Colonel John M. Brooke married, second, Mrs. Pendleton (*nee* Corbin).

†Son of John Taliaferro, a synopsis of whose will is given in this magazine, October, 1902, p. 199. The wife of this John was Sarah, daughter of Colonel Lawrence Smith. John's father was Robert, who settled in Virginia in 1655 and married a daughter of Rev. Charles Grymes.

‡Subsequently wife of William Brooke I. She was doubtless named for her mother, Sarah Thornton.

§Doubtless named in honor of her maternal grandmother, Alice Thornton, *nee* Savage.

¶There is on record in the county courthouse of Spottsylvania a nuncupative (*i. e.*, verbal) will of this "son John," dated 1750, by which he gives three hundred pounds to "sister Brooke;" that is, Mrs. Sarah (Taliaferro) Brooke.

twenty five acres of Land lying in King George County and the one half of a tract of Land that Nicholas Christopher lives on at the mountains and half of another Tract of Land lying at the mountains that George Hooten and James Reins Live on. Likeways the half of a Tract of Land lying in the forrest which I purchased of John Sanders and one Crawford to him and his heirs forever.

7th. I give to my son Francis* Three hundred and fifty acres of Land being the river side part of Seven Hundred acres of Land at Masaponax which I bought of Wm. Smith. I also give to my son Francis the one half of a Tract of Land that Nicholas Christopher Lives on at the mountains and the one half of another Tract of Land lying at the mountains that George Hooten and James Reins Live on likeways the half of a Tract of Land lying in the forrest which I purchased of John Sanders and one Crawford to him and his heirs forever.

8th. I give to my son William the Plantation on which I now dwell and also a Tract of Land lying at the mountains taken up in Copartnership with John Taliaferro where my Quarter now is. Likeways a Tract of Land lying on the mound and Swamp that is between mount† John Taliaferro and myself to him and his heirs forever. I give to my son William that Tract of Land which Francis Johnson Lives on to him and his heirs forever. I give to my three Sons John, Francis and William all the rest of my negroes to them and their heirs forever to be equally divided between them. I give to my daughters Sarah, Elizabeth, Mary & Alice each of them a feather bed and bolster. I give to my three Sons John, Francis & William all my household goods and Stocks whatsoever to be equally divided among them & their heirs forever. My will is that if either or any of my Sons should die before they arrive to the age of Twenty one years that then their estate to be equally divided between the Survivors. I give all the rest of my estate to be equally divided between my three sons John, Francis & William to them and their heirs forever. My will is that my loving wife Sarah Taliaferro,‡ have a mentenance

* He was Francis of "Epsom," whose wife was Elizabeth Hay and whose daughter, Ann Hay Taliaferro, became the first wife of Richard Brooke of "Smithfield," on the Rappahannock, four miles below Fredericksburg, and known in the military histories of the battle of Fredericksburg as the "Pratt House." "Epsom" was a few miles below "Smithfield" on the same side of the river. Francis Taliaferro was doubtless named in honor of his maternal grandfather Francis Thornton. William Brooke I was the uncle of Richard Brooke of "Smithfield," and the said William's wife (Sarah Taliaferro) was the aunt of the two wives of Richard of "Smithfield;" the second wife was Sarah Taliaferro, first cousin of the first wife.

† The name of the home of his brother John Taliaferro was "The Mount." (*4th Hen. Stat.*, p. 179.

‡ She was the daughter of Francis Thornton and his wife Alice Savage, and a twin brother, William, and the twins were born December 17th, 1680. (This Alice Savage was a daughter of Anthony Savage. Querie. Was Anthony either a son or a grandson of "Ensign" Thomas Savage who came to Virginia in 1607 when he was only thirteen years old? This magazine, April, 1903, p. 431; *Ib.*, October, 1899, p. 141; *Ib.*, Vol. I, pp. 443-45.)

out of my Estate during her Life, my will is that my four daughters have a mentenance out of my estate until they are married. Lastly I do appoint my three Sons John, Francis and William Executors of this my Last will & Testament and I do order & appoint my Loving brother John Taliaferro to Supervise & Settle all differences that shall arrise at any time between my wife & Children. In witness whereoff I Hereunto sett my hand & Seall this 7 of May, 1726.

LAW. TALIAFERRO.

In presence of T. Twoney, Jno. Roy, Robt. Taliaferro.

Lawrence Taliaferro Will. Copy. Proved in Essex on the 21st of June, 1726.

This copy of the will of Lawrence Taliaferro is the only copy now existing. The original is missing from the records of Essex. It should be observed, however, that the will was officially proved in Essex June 21, 1726. Not improbably it is the original (not a *copy*), which, having been duly proved in court, was taken to Brooke Bank by Mrs. Sarah Brooke. At any rate, whether the paper is the original or a copy, it was wrapped up with the wills of Lawrence Taliaferro's daughter, Mrs. Sarah Brooke, and of his son-in-law, William Brooke I, and of his grandson, William Brooke "the younger," and of his granddaughter, Miss Sarah Brooke, and of his great-grandson, John Brooke. The latest in date is the will of John Brooke, which was admitted to probate April 22nd, 1788. These wills, with a large number of other Brooke family papers (see this magazine, January, 1903, p. 303, and April, 1903, p. 443), were put away in a panel of the wall of the house at Brooke Bank, which was built by Mrs. Sarah Brooke, whose will is dated August 19th, 1763, and probated May 21st, 1764. Here these old Brooke family papers remained for nearly a century (probably forgotten), until they were brought to light by a shell from a United States gunboat during our great war. A correspondent gives the following account of this interesting circumstance:

"These papers were in a concealed panel in the walls of Brooke Bank, my father's old home. In 1862, during the Civil War, the house was shelled by the United States steamship *Pawnee*, but only two balls entered it; one bursting in the room in which I was born, the concussion forced open the panel in the tall wainscoting in my grandfather's room, on the first floor, and these papers fell over the room. The house was vacant at that time, and we fear many were lost. Since then some have fallen to pieces."

Mrs. Sarah (Taliaferro) Brooke says in her will that she built Brooke Bank. Her lineal descendants, the Brookes of Brooke Bank, hold it by inheritance (or devise) from her to this day. "Farmer's Hall," the home of her brother-in-law, Robert Brooke, Jr., the "Knight of the

Golden Horseshoe," was six miles lower down the river, and on the same side. It is now owned by the Sales, of Essex, who are descended from Mrs. Mary (Brooke) Sale, a daughter of the said Robert Brooke, Jr. The Humphrey Sale to whom was given fifty pounds cash by the will of Miss Sarah Brooke was the great-great-uncle of the present owners of the hall.

The Colonial Legislature established a ferry from Leedstown to Brooke Bank in 1744. *5 Hen. Stat.*, p. 250; *6 Hen. Stat.*, p. 18.

The Brooke Bank family and the "Smithfield" were called the "Taliaferro Brookes" because of the marriage of William Brooke I to Sarah Taliaferro and of the marriage of Richard Brooke, of "Smithfield," to two Misses Taliaferro. Perhaps it is interesting to observe that the first wife of Richard Brooke, of "Smithfield" (Ann Hay Taliaferro), named four of her five children (all five became notable personages) in honor of her Taliaferro kin, as follows: (1) Governor Robert (Revolutionary officer, Governor of Virginia, 1792; Attorney-General of Virginia, 1797, &c.) was named for his paternal grandfather, Robert Brooke, Jr., the "Knight of the Golden Horseshoe"; but (2) Judge Francis Taliaferro Brooke (Revolutionary officer and Judge of the Supreme Court of Virginia from 1811 to his death, in 1851, &c.) and (3) his twin brother, John Taliaferro Brooke (Revolutionary officer, several times member of Virginia Senate and Virginia House of Delegates, &c.), and (4) Dr. Lawrence Brooke (surgeon in the American Revolutionary Navy and with Paul Jones on the *Bon Homme Richard* in her celebrated battle with the *Serapis* off the coast of Scotland), and (5) Elizabeth (wife of Fontaine Maury and grandmother of that able and gallant soldier and most estimable gentleman, the late General Dabney H. Maury), were all named in honor of their Taliaferro side of the house. The second wife of Richard Brooke, of "Smithfield," Sarah Taliaferro, named her only child William, doubtless in honor of her father, William Taliaferro.

"Nancy" Brooke, daughter of Robert Brooke and his wife, Anne Aylett, married Colonel "Jack" Taliaferro, of Gloucester, and had issue: (1) Sally, m. Joseph Pollard, of King and Queen; (2) Robert Brooke, m. ——— Ellett, and emigrated to Illinois in 1835 with eleven children; (3) Christopher Walker; (4) Anna Aylett, m. ——— Ellett; (5) Mary Brooke, m. Colonel Catesby Jones, of Gloucester.

Nancy (Brooke) Taliaferro had a sister, Martha, who married Calohill Mennis. She also had a half-brother and half-sisters (children of her father's second wife, Lucy Dabney), as follows: Robert, of King William county, married Anne, daughter of General John Shee, of Philadelphia (General Shee's wife was Catherine, daughter of Thomas Lawrence, Provincial Councillor of Pennsylvania and last Colonial Mayor of Philadelphia, who married Mary, sister of Lewis Morris, signer of the

Declaration, and daughter of Colonel Lewis Morris, Governor of New Jersey); Lucy; Betsy; William. *Richmond Critic*, August 25, 1889.

Sarah L. Brooke, daughter of Dr. Lawrence Brooke, U. S. Navy, married John Wishart Taliaferro, of which marriage there were ten children. Mary Brooke, daughter of Edmund Brooke, of "Stepney," was the second wife of Hay Taliaferro, of which marriage there were four children. This Edmund was a son of Robert Brooke III, who was the oldest son of Robert Brooke, Jr. ("Knight of the Golden Horseshoe"); his mother was Mary, daughter of William Fauntleroy, and his wife was Harriet Whiting. He was a Revolutionary officer, was in the Virginia Legislature, 1798-'9, and voted against Mr. Madison's celebrated resolutions. (*Howison's History of Virginia*.) It was in his possession that Judge Brooke (his first cousin) says he had often seen the gold horseshoe that was given by Governor Spotswood, in 1716, to Robert Brooke, Jr. The late W. W. Corcoran, of Washington, D. C., said that Edmund Brooke (who then lived in Georgetown) had often shown him the horseshoe. An older sister of the present writer has told him that when she was a young girl, in the summer of 1856, while on a visit to "St. Julien" (home of Mr. Francis T. Brooke), she was shown that horseshoe and had it in her hands several times. What it was doing at "St. Julien" she did not know. It had then been in the family about 140 years, but seems now to be lost. Edmund Brooke and Harriet Whiting certainly had the following children (there may have been others): (1) Mary, married Hay Taliaferro; (2) Susannah, married Dr. Brewer, of Georgetown, D. C.; issue: Mrs. Thomas Carter, Mrs. Harriet Getty, Miss Matilda Brewer and Mrs. Graves. (3) Edmund Brooke, an officer in the U. S. N.; (4) Dr. Mathew Whiting Brooke (educated in medicine in Edinburgh), married a daughter of Warner Lewis, of "Warner Hall," Gloucester county; issue of Dr. Matthew Whiting Brooke and his wife, Elizabeth Lewis, is as follows: (1) Dr. John Lewis Brooke, m. Maria Louisa Ashby; (2) Elizabeth, m. May 15, 1834, Henry Marshall; (3) Courtney, m. November 12, 1836, Robert Selden; (4) Mary Lewis, m. Richard Byrd, of Gloucester. The late Rev. John Ambler, when rector of the Episcopal church in Morgantown, W. Va., told the present writer that he attended the marriage of Elizabeth Brooke to Mr. Henry Marshall, and also the marriage of Courtney Brooke to Robert Selden, and that Elizabeth, Courtney and Mary Lewis Brooke were three of the prettiest women in the State.

There were six intermarriages between the Brookes and the Taliaferros, including, of course, the *two* marriages of Richard Brooke, of "Smithfield," to *two* Taliaferros.

(TO BE CONTINUED)